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Northern Region News

A Newsletter for Employees and Retirees

ISSUE 12

December 1997

Metrics Are Coming!

by Jim Saurbier, Transportation Development,
RO Engineering, Missoula, MT.

The Forest Service has a metric conversion plan for the agency. Following the transportation industry, transportation construction will be the first area of conversion to metrics. A transportation construction conversion strategy for the Forest Service was designed in September of 1993, to convert construction and procurement specifications and other business-related documents by September 30, 1996 to achieve a metric-only conversion.

The Forest Service plan targets implementation in step with interdependent industry, materials and equipment conversions. The Federal Highway Administration and the State Departments of Transportation have essentially completed the conversion of their construction contracts.

This conversion applies to just the construction contracts. The common users of the highways will see no change as they drive the highways. Highway signing will remain the same. Only the construction engineers and the contractors will know that the highways have been constructed to metric units. This will also be true of the forest development roads and trails.

Target dates have been set for various aspects of engineering work. The road, trail and bridge construction implementation target date was October 1, 1996. Other areas of engineering have later target dates.

The essential tools for the Forest Service to convert specifications for roads, bridges and trails have been rewritten in metric units and are available now. This will allow us to implement metric road and trail construction

contracts whenever the region decides.

Other staff areas have later target implementation dates. Conversion of the timber sale contract is targeted for January 1, 1999. All Service-wide conversions are scheduled for completion by the end of fiscal year 2000.

Most Regions plan to issue most of their road, bridge and trail construction contracts in hard metrics after October 1997 and have used fiscal year 1997 as a transition year, using both metric and English contracts.

In keeping with R-1's goal of enhancing community relations, the implementation of metrics is an optional practice based upon the local situation at the National Forests. Each Forest Supervisor will evaluate the situation on their respective Forest and implement metrics as soon as their evaluation determines that implementation can be accomplished in a manner that is most cost effective and least disruptive for the Forest and their customers.

Metric conversion training will be provided for engineering personnel as we transition our thinking for lengths from miles, yards, feet and inches to kilometers, meters and millimeters; weights from tons and pounds to metric tons, and kilograms; volumes from cubic yards and gallons to cubic meters and liters; and temperatures degrees from Fahrenheit to Celsius.

For additional details about the R-1 schedule for converting to metrics, telephone Jim Saurbier, RO Engineering, (406) 329-3335.

How Did We Get To Metrics?

In 1975, the Metric Conversion Act provided that a "voluntary" conversion to metric measurements in the U.S. be led by private industry. Conversion activities increased somewhat, but there was no universal nor widespread support from industry. This metric conversion effort essentially failed. The 1988 Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act amended the 1975 act, requiring each Federal agency convert all procurements, grants, and business-related activities to the metric system of measurements by the end of fiscal year (FY) 1992. President Bush issued an Executive Order on July 25, 1991, requiring Federal agencies to submit a metric conversion plan, calling for implementation by November 30, 1991.

The Forest Service metric conversion plan, including the engineering conversion transition plan, was submitted to the Department of Agriculture in November 1991. The Engineering transition plan proposes conversion over a 4-year period, beginning October 1, 1992. The plan detailed a "soft" to "hard" metric conversion of all specifications, directives, and other documents related to procurements, construction contracts, grants, and business-related activities.

Employees, Retirees Mark L&C Centennial

By Bonnie Dearing,
Public Affairs
Officer, Lewis & Clark
National Forest, Great Falls, MT.

Donning hardhats, Lewis & Clark National Forest retirees and current and former employees stepped into a fun-filled weekend in August in Great Falls, MT, to mark the Forest's centennial.

Saturday kicked off with a slide show and tour of the new Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center.

Jane Schmoyer-Weber, center director, presented slides of the interpretive displays to be installed in the center. Dale Gorman, president of Lewis & Clark Fund, Inc., and

Ron Meyers, project engineer, led tour groups through the building which is nearing completion. The last tour finished just in time for folks to hurry out to the Sun River Skeet Club for the centennial picnic.

The day may have been gray, but spirits were bright, as long-ago colleagues recognized old friends. One-hundred-forty people gathered to celebrate 100 years of shared history of the Lewis & Clark National Forest.

Many retirees brought their "retirement books" filled with photos of past employees and Forest sites. Former Forest Supervisors attending were George Roskie, 1960-66; George Engler, 1967-76; and Dale Goreman, 1976-90. The retiree who travelled the farthest was Hank Manning and his wife, Helen, from Middlesex, North Carolina. The oldest person in attendance, representing district personnel, was Una Weller, whose late husband, "Slim", worked on the Judith Ranger District, 1958-76.

Sunday featured a trip down memory lane, led by archaeologist Kelly Keim. A group of thirteen toured the historic Judith Ranger Station south of Utica. Having seasonally



Delores Gregory (left), 1970-72, Jackie Hertel (left center), current employee, Terry Solberg (right center), 1977-78, and Kathy Quillian Solberg, 1977-80, enjoy photos of former Lewis & Clark National Forest employees.

Photo by Kurt Teuber.

worked at the station, the last District Ranger who closed down the Lewistown Ranger District, Maurice Vogel was particularly interested in seeing the progress of the station restoration.

The centennial reunion weekend was the third event marking the Forest's 100th anniversary.

Vandals Damage Flathead NF Cave; Reward Offered

A Flathead National Forest cave, south of the Canadian border, just west of Glacier National Park, has been vandalized. In addition to spray painting the cave walls, tearing out cave gates, the vandals snapped off stalactites and stalagmites that took thousands of years to form.

The cave coordinator, Forest employees and volunteers have installed a fortified culvert entrance to the cave and locked it. A \$500 reward is being offered by the Flathead National Forest for information about those responsible for vandalizing the cave.

The cave, discovered in the 1950s, had been defaced in the past. The latest attack was severe enough to force closing off a portion of the cave. The closed portion is a chamber newly discovered when explorers dug through a wall into the chamber.

A gate was put over the entrance in June. But vandals soon tore it away. Another gate was installed in August. Within days it was torn down.

The Forest Service is mandated by the Cave Resource Protection Act of 1988 to

protect the cave, Glacier View District Ranger Deb Manley explained. Vandalizing a protected cave can involve a penalty up to \$5,000 in fines and six months in jail.

"We don't want to exclude people, so we are considering a long-term permit system." Manley says this will permit the Forest Service to know who visits the cave.

Becky Smith-Powell, cave expert on the Flathead National Forest, says she took photos to inventory the decorative formations

when she first visited the cave last February. On subsequent visits, the changes were obvious. "People were taking cave formations at an alarming rate."

Flathead National Forest Supervisor Rodd Richardson has signed a special order prohibiting anyone to enter the cave without a Forest Service permit.

Smith-Powell is drafting a management plan for the cave. The plan will provide for a permanent permit system. She said she hopes the permits will help curb destruction of the fragile stalactites and stalagmites, which grow at about one-tenth of a centimeter per year under optimum conditions.

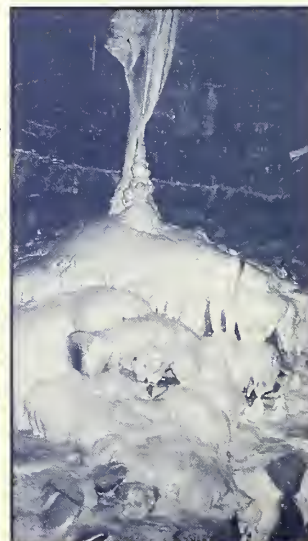


THREE-FOOT COLUMN,
stalactites, 18"
and stalagmites
8" (left).

FLOWSTONE.
Large formation
with column
(right).



**CARMEL CALCITE
CAVE FORMATION,**
12" x 24" (right).



Ninemile CCC Camp Arch Restored For Reunion

By Kenneth A. Britton, Resource Forester,
Ninemile Ranger District, Lolo National
Forest.

Huson, MT—Twenty former enrollees of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), from as far away as Ohio and Illinois, who spent part of their CCC days at the Ninemile Camp met September 20 at Ninemile Ranger Station, Lolo National Forest, to share old stories, renew acquaintances, and visit their old camp.

The day, planned by District Resource Technician Lynne Sholty, was also meant to recognize the efforts of two individuals who have recently contributed to the rich heritage of the Ninemile CCC camp.

Ninemile District Ranger Greg Munther presided over the festivities, reminding the former CCC enrollees that their work 60 years ago continues to pay dividends to the Ninemile Ranger District. The District is still housed in the Historic Ninemile Remount Depot facilities constructed by the CCC enrollees in the mid-1930s. The domestic water system and the irrigation systems, dug by CCC hands, are still in operation. Pastures cleared by the CCC remain the winter homes to nearly 250 head of Northern and Intermountain Regions' horses and mules.

Munther recognized two individuals who recently contributed to Ninemile Camp's rich heritage.

Leo Revell, Victor, MT, retired administrative officer for the Bitterroot and Deerlodge National Forests and a former Ninemile Camp CCC enrollee, donated and, with the help of Ninemile Ranger District employees Lynne Sholty and Don Stadler, installed a plaque at the camp to recognize

the men who served at the camp from 1934 to 1941.

In the fall of 1995, Cage Urquhart, a Huson, MT, Boy Scout candidate for the Eagle badge, contacted the District about possible Eagle Scout projects. Cage, whose grandfather, Pat Urquhart, served in the CCC at the Ninemile Camp, was intrigued by the idea of reconstructing the log arch entrance to the camp. Since no drawings of the arch existed, Cage worked with Lolo NF architect Ken Duce, Lolo NF archaeologist Milo McLeod, Ninemile district resource forester Don Stadler, and R-1 historic preservation team leader Bernie Weisgerber to design the structure.

Cage and his family cut and peeled logs in the fall of 1995. After seasoning the logs for a year, Cage organized work parties to complete construction of the arch. Normally an Eagle Scout project requires a minimum of 80 hours of effort by the scout. By the end of the project, Cage had nearly 500 hours invested in the arch.

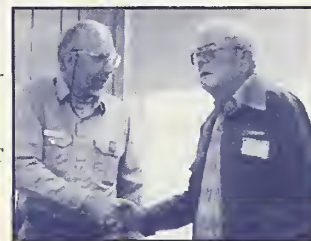
Following the brief ceremony at the Ranger Station, the folks drove the three miles to the site of the CCC camp. The former CCC enrollees marvelled at the arch marking the old camp and were pleased to see the plaque placed at the historic site.

Amid sunshine, handshakes, old time music and stories, the reunion served as a proud reminder of the lasting legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps and the valuable contributions they made to the Ninemile Ranger District.

NINEMILE DISTRICT RANGER Greg Munther thanks retiree Leo Revell, former administrative officer on the Bitterroot and Deerlodge National Forests, for his contributions to the Ninemile CCC Camp. Photos by Ken Britton.



CAGE URQUHART (center) with his family at the CCC Camp log arch they constructed at the historic camp site.



"Lewis & Clark In Montana" Multi-Agency Exhibit Theme

by Bonnie Dearing, Public Affairs Office, Lewis & Clark National Forest, Great Falls, MT.

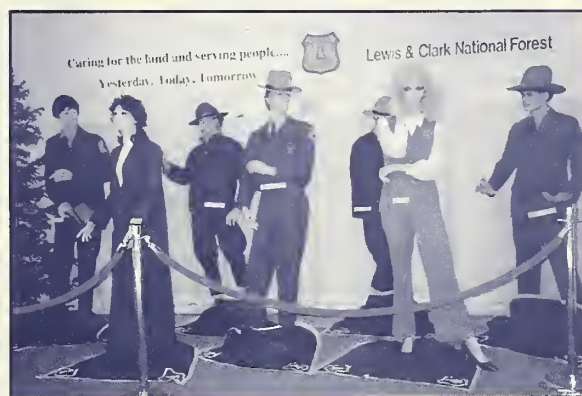
"Lewis & Clark In Montana" was the theme of the multi-agency central display in the Nature's Den at the State Fair in Great Falls this year. The flora and fauna recorded by Lewis and Clark in Montana were featured to whet the interest of the public in the opening of the Lewis & Clark Center in the spring of 1998.

Also in Nature's Den, booths for the USDA Forest Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, USDI Bureau of Land Management, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service with the Cascade County Conservation District, and Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks highlighted the uniqueness of each agency.

The Forest Service celebrated the Lewis & Clark National Forest centennial by displaying historical maps, photos, and uniforms. Historical uniforms were loaned to the Forest by Western Heritage Museum, Encampment, Wyoming, and some current employees. While every visitor had their favorite style of uniform, the one that drew the most comments was the lime-green, polyester women's uniform from the 1970s.

The teenagers loved it!

Caring for the land and serving people....Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow



HISTORICAL UNIFORMS were a popular part of the Lewis & Clark National Forest's centennial display in the Nature's Den at the State Fair. Photo by Sandi French.

Separation Incentives Buyout Total Is 170

In October, Forest Service Chief Mike Dombeck announced that "the Forest Service and the Under Secretary [U.S. Department of Agriculture] have been successful in getting approval to offer our employees a limited buyout.

"The Forest Service is implementing this buyout program under the authority of the (fiscal year) 1997 Agriculture Appropriations Act. The amount of the separation incentive will be the lesser of \$20,000 or the amount your severance pay would be. Separation incentives are a tool to help managers adjust the work force to projected budget levels and are being driven by budget and full time equivalent (FTE) ceiling constraints."

Units (Regions, Stations, Areas, International Institute of Tropical Forestry, WO) that offered the buyout will have their FTEs for FY 1996 cut by approximately 1.5 times the number of buyouts given.

R-1 employees were notified October 30 that buyouts in the Northern Region would be limited to 250; applications for separation incentives were accepted until November 17. Those approved for incentive payments were notified by November 21. The last day for an employee to leave with a separation incentive was January 3; the first date for leaving with the incentive was November 30. Employees retiring under the early-out provision had to be off the rolls by December 30, 1997.

A total of 170 R-1 employees applied for and were approved for the buyout.

Twenty-nine of these were in the RO:

Co-op Forestry.....	2
Ecosystem Assessment & Planning.....	2
Engineering.....	5
Forest & Rangeland.....	3
Financial Resources.....	3
Human Resources.....	2
Public & Governmental Relations.....	2
Procurement & Property.....	4
Regional Forester's Office.....	2
RMLH&W.....	2
State & Private Forestry Support.....	1
WWF&RP.....	1
RO Total.....	29

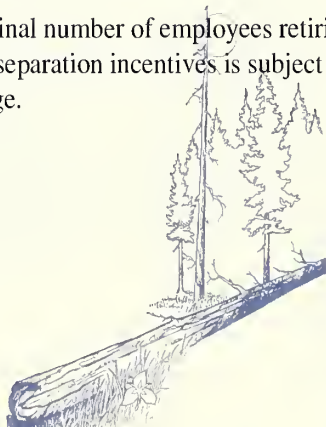
The 141 buyouts on R-1 National Forests ranged from 4 to 32:

Beaverhead-Deerlodge.....	8
Bitterroot.....	6
Idaho Panhandle.....	32
Clearwater.....	13
Custer.....	6
Flathead.....	12
Gallatin.....	4
Helena.....	4
Kootenai.....	23
Lewis & Clark.....	4
Lolo.....	15
Nez Perce.....	14
National Forest Total	141

Research Stations, other than the Rocky Mountain Station, did not offer separation incentives. The Servicewide total of buyouts was 1,261. Below is a listing of Regional, Station and WO totals:

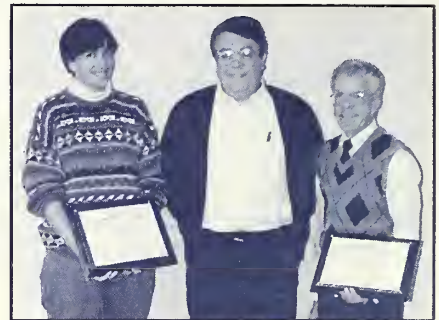
R-1.....	170
R-2.....	14
R-3.....	94
R-4.....	104
R-5.....	189
R-6.....	257
R-8.....	225
R-9.....	111
R-10.....	41
RM.....	14
WO.....	42
Servicewide total.....	1,261
<i>(AS OF DECEMBER 1, 1997)</i>	

The final number of employees retiring with separation incentives is subject to change.



Four Receive Ag Secretary Merit Awards

By Scott Bixler, RO,
Recreation, Minerals,
Lands, Heritage and
Wilderness.



JANE DARNELL, JACK CRAVEN AND DALE DUFOUR.
Photo by Scott Bixler

Four R-1 employees received special U.S. Department of Agriculture Certificates of Merit and cash awards in October for their work on the New World mine project. The project is a cornerstone of President Clinton's environmental policy.

Mike Burnside, Sherman Solid, Dale Dufour and Jane Darnell received the USDA certificates and cash awards.

Janet Potts, Counselor to Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman, presented the awards to Burnside, locatable minerals specialist in the RO Division of Recreation, Minerals, Lands, Heritage and Wilderness, and Solid, geologist, Gallatin National Forest, at the New World Mine valuation meeting in Spearfish, South Dakota. In presenting the awards, Potts explained that Burnside and Solid were recognized for providing very timely, high quality and extremely professional assistance on a wide range of highly sensitive, controversial and technical issues related to the New World project.

Jack Craven, WO Assistant Director of Lands, representing Secretary Glickman at the National Lands Directors meeting in Missoula, presented the awards to Darnell and Dufour.

Craven explained that Darnell developed a land exchange option responsive to the Montana Initiative that would satisfy the State of Montana, the general public and industry. Secretary Glickman had said "Jane did an extremely professional job and dealt effectively with the many modifications that resulted from the intense public comment period."

Dufour was recognized for his involvement in the project, particularly his role in coordinating with other agencies, including the Bureau of Land Management and the State of Montana, as well as working with news media throughout the complex and controversial project. He provided information as necessary for the success of the New World project, including the Montana Initiative.

Regional Forester Meets With Retirees



RETIREES TALK WITH REGIONAL FORESTER DALE BOSWORTH: Ray McLaughlin (left) and John Hughes (right).



JIM FREEMAN (right), president of the Northern Rocky Mountain Retiree Association, and Regional Forester Dale Bosworth.

Downsizing, reinvention, reduced budget, financial management, personnel reductions and a narrowing of options in our resource decisions are some of the Northern Region's priorities, Regional Forester Dale Bosworth told a meeting of the Northern Rocky Mountain Retiree Association November 12 in Missoula.

"We have to resolve downsizing, realignment and the budget adjustments quickly so that we can get on with our major responsibility of resource management on the public lands of this Region," Bosworth told 85 retirees at the luncheon meeting in Missoula in November.

"Financial management is taking on new importance at all levels in the Forest Service, from the Ranger Districts, the Supervisors Offices, Regional headquarters, research stations and through the WO. Changing times and new demands are placing added responsibility with us for our financial management at all administrative levels and in resource management programs.

"Emphasis has to be returned to good/

close working relationships with local communities, local people, and elected local officials. We can't survive if we don't work well and close with local communities.

"It is important that we work to keep our options open as we make resource decisions in minerals, grazing, timber, wildlife, soils, water, recreation and wilderness management. Growing demands on the National Forests, new legislation, injunctions and other legal actions are closing down the space for decision-making."

In a question and answer period, Bosworth talked of the recent buyout and early-out options, the Columbia Basin Project under the administration of three Regional Foresters and three Bureau of Land Management directors, and his plan to work closely with the retiree association.

A retiree steering committee is planning for the three-day servicewide Forest Service reunion in Missoula in the year 2000, Labor Day week. Bosworth pledged his support for the project and said he would assign a regional liaison to work with the retirees' steering committee.

Panhandle Employees Help Women, Children

By Carl Gidlund, Public Affairs Officer,
Idaho Panhandle National Forest,
Coeur d'Alene, ID.

Idaho Panhandle National Forests' employees have helped more than 200 abused women and their 300 children during the past two years. And it didn't cost them a cent.

Since December 1995, Forest employees and many visitors have been collecting unused shampoos, soaps, hand lotions and other toiletries from their hotel rooms, then depositing them in a collection box in the Supervisor's Office. As the box fills --and it has four times already -- employees deliver it to the North Idaho Women's Center, which provides help to battered women and their children in Idaho's five northernmost counties.

Center Director Holladay Sanderson explains the donated toiletries supplement funds the organization receives from the United Way. "There's just not enough of anything to go around," she says. "So, whatever money we can save through donations, such as yours, we put to good use providing ad-



GOODIES FOR LADIES, KIDS: Idaho Panhandle National Forests' Receptionist Janet Zortman (left) delivers toiletries to North Idaho Women's Center Director Holladay Sanderson. Photo by Carl Gidlund.

ditional counseling and essential living items."

Sanderson says the Center, which serves more than 100 women and 150 children each year, can also use many kinds of donated items, including women's and children's bedclothes and shoes, food, diapers and furniture. She also maintains a Christmas gift list for Center clients. Additional information may be obtained by calling the Center in Coeur d'Alene at (208) 664-9303.

Custer Volunteer Given Service Award For Environmental Ed



GARY GROCHOLSKI, Custer National Forest volunteer (center), with his supervisor, Thomas A. Alt (L), forestry technician, Beartooth Ranger District, Red Lodge, MT, and Michael Francis (R), information assistant, Custer NF SO.

Photo by Mary Bell Lunsford, public affairs assistant, Custer NF SO.

Gary Grocholski, Custer National Forest volunteer, received a prestigious award in October when the City of Billings, MT, presented Gary their Bright & Beautiful program's "Volunteer Service Award", in recognition of his environmental education work.

Since 1987, as a volunteer, Grocholski has instructed more than 11,643 children and adults in the Forest Service's environmental education programs. Earlier this year he received the Forest Service Chief's award in recognition of his environmental education achievements.

Retirements

Donna Boileau, automation assistant, RO Recreation, Minerals, Lands, Heritage & Wilderness, retired in January after 23 years of Federal service. She worked for the Department of the Army, 1956-58, and the Forest Service, 1958-1961 and 1980-1997.

George Howe, regional geneticist, RO Forest & Rangeland, retired in January after 30 years of Federal Service. A native of Indiana, Howe holds a BS degree from Purdue University, a MS in forestry from University of Washington, and a Ph.D. from Michigan State University. He worked for the Bureau of Land Management, Baker, Oregon, in 1962; Forest Service's Northeastern Forest Experiment Station, Burlington, VT, 1965-68; and Northern Region headquarters, Missoula, 1971-1997. Howe says his retirement plans include consulting, teaching and skiing.

Carma Gilligan, biological sciences technician, RO Cooperative Forestry and Forest Health Protection, retired in January after more than 32 years with the Forest Service. Born in Townsend, MT, Carma graduated from Bozeman High School and attended Montana State University and the University of Montana. She first worked in administrative service in the Northern Region Headquarters, 1965-66, and from 1967 to 1997 she worked in forest pest control, RO State & Private Forestry. Her retirement plans include starting a business and writing a book.

Clinton Carlson, project leader, Forest Ecology & Management Research Work Unit, Rocky Mountain Research Station, Missoula, retired in November after 31 years with the Forest Service. He worked as a summer temporary for the National Forest System while an undergraduate at the University of Montana. In 1966, he accepted an appointment with the Northern Region evaluating forest disease problems. In 1977, he moved across town to work at the Inter-mountain Research Station laboratory in Missoula. Clint published more than 70 papers on his research. He says Forest Service employees are the most considerate and committed people he has ever known. Clint and his wife, Sally, will continue to make their home near Florence, MT.

Ron Doucette, accounting systems and procedures, RO Financial Resources, retired in January after 35 years with the Forest Service. A graduate of Sentinel High School (Missoula), he holds a degree in business

from Montana State University. He first worked for the Forest Service in the Northern Region headquarters, 1962-1963. After five years on the Clearwater NF, 1963-1968, he returned to the RO in 1968 and worked there until his retirement. Ron and his wife, Kathy, will continue to make their home in Frenchtown.

Betty Weisenburger, appeals manager, RO Ecosystem Assessment and Planning, retired in January after 30 years with the Forest Service. A native of North Dakota, she graduated from Robinson (ND) High School and attended the University of Montana/Missoula. Mr. and Mrs. Weisenburger will continue to make her home in Missoula.

Jed Dewey, supervisory entomologist, RO Cooperative Forestry & Forest Health Protection, retired in January after 34 years of Federal service. A native of Utah, Dewey holds BS and MS degrees from Utah State University. He worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Research Service, Laramie, Wyoming, from 1964 to 1966, and joined the Forest Service in Missoula in 1966. After working in the R-6 RO, Portland, Oregon, from 1975 to 1978, he returned to the R-1 RO in Missoula. Mr. & Mrs. Dewey will continue to make their home in Missoula. They are the parents of two grown children.

William H. Wyatt, engineering designer, Missoula Technology & Development Center, retired in December after 25 years of Federal service, 21 years in the Forest and four years of military service. He worked at the Missoula Technology & Development Center from Feb. 1977 to December 1997. He holds a BS degree from Western Carolina University and is now enrolled in a graduate program in Psychology at the University of Montana.

William J. Crispin, civil engineering technician, Plains/Thompson Falls Ranger District, Lolo Nation Forest, retired in December after 26 years of Federal service: four years in the military and 22 years with the Forest Service. From June 1971 to October 1977 he worked in fire and engineering on the Missoula RD, Lolo NF. From September 1980 to December 1997 he worked on the Plains/Thompson Falls RD. Mr. and Mrs. Crispin will continue to make their home in Plains.

Nineteen Kootenai NF Employees Retire

The Kootenai National Forest employee newsletter, THE LOOKOUT, lists nineteen employees retiring in December and January.

Ted Andersen, forester (realty), worked his way through the University of Montana School of Forestry while working five years as a smokejumper out of Missoula. He then worked three years on the Nez Perce, six years on the Helena, and then three years on the Nez Perce. After 10 years on the Panhandle he went to the Libby RD and then to the Kootenai NF SO. Carol and Ted "hope to visit Alaska and Canada in the next few years and maybe Europe."

Joseph E. Barcomb, geotechnical engineer, began his Forest Service career in R-5 in 1963 and retired there in 1972. After two years, he returned to the Forest Service in R-1 in 1974. After he retired in January, Joe planned to do some traveling.

Jerald W. Berry, supervisory wildlife biologist, Three Rivers RD, Troy, MT, began his Forest Service career in 1964 as a seasonal firefighter on the Pierce (Idaho) RD. After serving in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division, Jerry returned to college. His Forest Service career included range/wildlife specialist, Lochsa RD, Clearwater NF; assistant pre-sale forester/recreation & lands assistant, Rexford RD, Kootenai NF; district biologist, Wisdom RD, Beaverhead NF; resource assistant/wildlife staff, Red River RD, Nez Perce NF; project forester/wildlife biologist, U.S. Corps of Engineers (Dworshak Dam Project); wildlife program manager, North Kaibab RD (AZ), Kaibab NF; and back to the Three Rivers RD on the Kootenai NF (1991-1997) as wildlife/soils & watershed staff. "I take pride in wearing the Forest Service uniform. I shall miss it."

Charles F. Brooks, SO operations staff officer, is retiring in January after 38 years with the Forest Service. He began his career in 1956 as a seasonal firefighter on the St. Regis RD, Coeur d'Alene NF. In 1959, he received a BS degree in forestry from Syracuse University and accepted an appointment on the Canyon RD, Clearwater NF. After five years on the Clearwater NF and service in the Army, he was assigned to the Noxon RD, Kaniksu NF, as assistant ranger. Brooks served as Red Ives district ranger, St. Joe NF, Forest multiple use coord-

dinator in the SO and Hungry Horse (MT) district ranger, Flathead NF, and spent the remainder of his career on the Kootenai NF. Chuck and his wife, Peggy, will continue to make their home in Libby.

Gary D. Brown, operations engineer, worked three years for the Soil Conservation Service and 29 years with the Forest Service. He started to work on the Kootenai NF in March of 1979 at the West Zone in preconstruction engineering. From 1979 to 1993, Gary was preconstruction engineer and project leader at East Zone in Libby and Canoe Gulch. Since 1993, he has been operations engineer in the SO. He will continue to make his home in Libby.

Lois E. Caauwe, computer assistant, spent her entire Forest Service career (14 years) in the SO and on the Cabinet RD, Trout Creek, MT. She was a school teacher before she came to work for the Forest Service. Lois says that "The first thing I am going to do after I retire is to break my alarm clock."

Alfred T. Corda, forester/silviculturist, began his Forest Service career in 1956 on the Los Padres, Shasta-Trinity and Eldorado National Forests. After four years in the Navy and graduation from Humboldt State College, Al worked as a sales administrator at Happy Camp in California. He served as a silviculturist on the Minarets RD, Sierra NF, before he came to the Kootenai NF as a silviculturist in 1981. Al and his wife, Ruth, plan to travel and trace the journeys of Lewis & Clark.

Larry L. Coryell, supervisory forester (operations), Three Rivers RD, Troy, MT, started his career on the Kootenai NF and is retiring from the Kootenai. But the trip from Eureka to Troy, MT, took 18 years, covered 6,000 miles and included stops on seven Forests in four states in the West. Larry says his post-retirement plans are "about as firm as warm jello."

Larry R. Cron, SO planning staff officer, says he was born into the Forest Service in the 1940s on the Eldorado NF. After he received a BS degree in forest management from Oregon State University in 1962, Larry worked in timber stand improvement, fire management, sales preparation, as district fire control officer, and multiple use assistant before he was assigned to the Powell RD, Clearwater NF, in 1972. He came to the Kootenai NF from the Fernan RD, Idaho Panhandle NFs, in 1985. Larry

served 10 1/2 years in R-5 and 26 years in R-1. Larry and his wife, Nancy, plan to move to Missoula where their daughter and his mother live.

Linda L. DeYoung, administrative officer, Three Rivers Ranger District, began her 22 years of government work with the Pacific Northwest Experiment Station in Portland. After working for the Farmers Home Administration in Steamboat Springs, CO, she went to work for the Kootenai NF on the Canoe Gulch RD, Kootena NF, then to the Central Shared Services Center, Libby RD, and she then transferred to the Troy Ranger District.

Zandra Dillon, SO contract specialist, started her Federal career on the Yosemite National Park in 1972, after teaching school in Los Angeles. After working for the National Park Service as secretary, realty specialist, administrative officer, and contracting officer, she went to work for the Forest Service on the Gila NF, Silver City, New Mexico, and came to work on the Kootenai NF in 1991. After her retirement, Zandra plans to return to teaching.

Ronald L. Hernvall, forester, working in the Supervisor's Office lands shop on cost share agreements, is retiring.

Alvah F. Hughes, land surveyor, SO technical service shop, is retiring.

Sharyl R. Hurd, computer assistant, began working as a clerk-typist in the SO in 1976. Prior to working for the Forest Service, she worked for the State of Minnesota, Northern States Power, and an insurance company. She has worked on the Fisher River RD, as part of the shared services group (Libby/Fisher River RDs), and in the SO as receptionist, telephone operator, voucher examiner and in computer/communications. Sharyl plans to take a year off and decide what she wants to do and where to go with her life, but she says "the future is coming with lots of events and I may not have that luxury."

Jesse J. James, civil engineering technician, first worked for the Forest Service on the Mount Hood NF in 1962 as a survey party chief. After working on the Clackamas RD, Mt. Hood NF, in preconstruction engineering, and on the Randle RD on the Gifford Pinchot NF, he came to the Kootenai NF in 1977 to work on the Troy RD and then in Zone Engineering for 17 years. In 1994, he transferred to Canoe Gulch/East

Zone Engineering. "Over my 35-year career," James says, "I have been blessed with knowing and working with many kind and dedicated Forest Service employees."

Michael Johnson, supervisory forester, Libby RD, is retiring after 34 years in the Forest Service. He has been on the Kootenai NF for 19 years. Mike has worked in California and Montana, mainly in timber. He will continue to live in Libby.

Robert A. McCrea, forestry technician, Three Rivers RD, is retiring after 27 years with the Forest Service. He started his career in R-6 on the Winema NF. He worked on five National Forests and came to the Three Rivers RD in 1989 as a forestry technician in sales preparation. Rob says he has appreciated the independence of the work he has been in over the years and feels the agency has been good to him.

Ronald D. Mjelde, civil engineering technician, West Engineering Zone, Troy, MT, is retiring. Ron and his wife, Helen, will continue to live in Libby. They plan to do some work on their house and then do some traveling.

Paul L. Parsons, forestry technician in resources, Three Rivers RD, is retiring.

Opal Starr Retires, Idaho Panhandle N.F.

By Noelle Meier, Idaho Panhandle National Forests, Coeur d'Alene, ID.

Opal Starr has retired after 17 years as an employee in the Senior Community Service Program (SCSP) in the Idaho Panhandle National Forests headquarters in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. She is making her retirement home in Kooskia, where she spent her childhood.

Her parents were homesteaders at Kooskia. A great story teller, Opal told many colorful and entertaining stories about her days on the homestead. Her stories sparked the imagination of many of the younger generations working in the SO.

Her SCSP work with the Forest Service involved a wide range of activities, ranging from the production of many publications, helping others meet demanding deadlines, to entering data base recreation into the Data General computer system, reviewing and collecting Forest Service articles from the local newspapers, doing copy work, filing and cataloging photos for the archaeologists and maintaining the office greenery.

With everything she did, she brought along a pleasant word, a smile and a friendly greeting and interesting stories. She was a rich addition to the SO.

Personnel Actions

BEAVERHEAD-DEERLODGE NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

BAIN, GEORGE, district ranger, Philipsburg RD, promotion
 BARKER, TRAVIS, forestry technician, Jefferson RD, promotion
 BRABENDER, JOSEPH, forestry technician, Philipsburg RD, promotion
 GIACOLETTO, MARK, supervisory forestry technician, Philipsburg RD, promotion
 HAMMER, JULIAN, forestry technician, Jefferson RD, promotion
 JOHNSON, GEORGE, supervisory forestry technician, SO, promotion
 NAGY, ROCHELLE, forestry technician, Madison RD, promotion
 PETRICK-UNDERWOOD, STEVEN, forestry technician, Wisdom RD, promotion
 RUSSELL, FRANK, supervisory forestry technician, SO, promotion
 SCHUELKE, BRUCE, forester, Butte RD, temporary promotion
 SCHULTE, DARRELL, forester, SO, promotion
 SMITH, KEVIN, forestry technician, Jefferson RD, promotion
 STRAUSSER, GLEN, forestry technician, Madison RD, promotion
 SUMMERS, JOSEPH, forestry technician, Wise River RD, promotion
 TUSS, CHARLES, forestry technician, Philipsburg RD, promotion
 WOFFORD, QUANE, forestry technician, Dillon RD, promotion
 WOODCOCK, KIMBERLY, forestry technician, Jefferson RD, promotion

Reassignments & Transfers

HAMMER, JULIAN, forestry technician, Wenatchee NF reassignment to Butte RD
 MARTIN, CHERYL, forestry technician, Lolo NF, Superior RD, reassignment to Madison RD

CUSTER NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

ANDERSON, BABETE R., information receptionist OA, QSI

Reassignments & Transfers

ALEXANDER, JOSEPH G., rangeland management specialist, Bitterroot NF, Sula RD, reassignment to rangeland management specialist, McKenzie RD.
 ELLIOTT, MARY E., SCSEP enrollee, SO, transfer to office automation clerk, Bureau of Reclamation, Yellowtail Field Office.

FLATHEAD NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

HELMRICK, DAVID, law enforcement officer, NW Montana Zone, to lead law enforcement officer, temporary promotion

Retirements

ANDERBERG, BUD, forestry technician, Glacier View RD
 BANGEMAN, DAN, civil engineering technician, SO
 BRASH, GENE, lead animal packer, Spotted Bear RD
 FIVAS, ED, geologist, SO
 FORTUNE, BOB, civil engineering technician, SO
 LAUDER, MAX, civil engineer, SO
 REID, JOHN, mail clerk, SO

SLEIGHT, DOUG, forestry technician, SO
 STURGIS, LOIS, forestry technician, Hungry Horse RD
 TABER, CLARENCE, civil engineering technician, SO
 VANDENBURG, JIM, forester, SO
 WOLL, PETE, civil engineering technician, SO

GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

GAHAGAN, GINA, legal instruments examiner (conveyance), SO, promotion
 HESCH, PAT, forester, Hebgen Lake RD, promotion, Arapaho & Roosevelt NF, Sulphur RD
 HILLIARD, ELAINE, procurement technician, SO, promotion
 METZGER, SHERRY, accounting technician, SO, promotion
 SMITH-RILEY, JACKIE, cartographic technician, SO, promotion
 VANDIVER, MARY, forester, Hebgen Lake RD, promotion, Chugach NF, Glacier RD
 WILSON, TODD, forestry technician, Livingston RD, promotion

Retirements

BURKENPAS, ANNA, personnel clerk, SO
 HAYNES, DARLYNE, support services clerk, SO
 LEHMAN, JUDY, appraiser, SO
 REILLY, KAY, support services specialist, Big Timber RD

KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST

New Employees

LANE, ALAN, forestry technician, Three Rivers RD, conversion

Reassignments & Transfers

SPANGLER, ROB, fish biologist, Three Rivers RD to Chugach NF, reassignment
 SULLIVAN, KIRK, hydrologist, Rexford RD to USDA NRCS, transfer



IN MEMORIAM

CHARLES "Stew" DESCHAMPS, 68, died October 23 in Missoula. Born in Kimberly, British Columbia, Canada, he graduated from Missoula County High School (1950), served two years in U.S. Army, and earned bachelor's and master's degrees in forestry from the University of Montana School of Forestry. He served 42 years in the Forest Service on ranger districts in Idaho and Montana and retired from the Kings Hill Ranger District, White Sulphur Springs, MT.

HENRY F. "Hank" KOTTKEY, 86, died August 26 in Kellogg, Idaho. He graduated from Wallace (Idaho) High School and worked 40 years on the Kellogg Ranger District, Idaho Panhandle National Forests. Kottkey was District Fire Control Officer at the time of his retirement in 1967.

KENNETH D. PHILLIPS, 54, civil engineering technician. Custer National Forest SO, died October 26 in Billings. Born in Richardton, North Dakota, he worked for the North Dakota Highway Dept., served two years, 1964-1966, in Vietnam with the U.S. Army and started to work for the Forest Service in 1967 as a civil engineering technician on the Medora Ranger District (Little Missouri National Grasslands), Dickinson, ND., Custer National Forest. In 1970, Phillips was assigned to the Custer NF SO, Billings, where he served as a civil engineering technician.

ROGETTA C. WALDO, 85, died November 6 in Missoula. A graduate of Missoula County High School, she attended the University of Montana. In 1952 she moved to Virginia and started to work for the Forest Service in March of 1956 and served as secretary for three Deputy Chiefs. She returned to Missoula in March of 1977 and retired in March of 1978 after 22 years with the Forest Service.

EDWARD MORRIS, 90, died November 20 in San Diego, California. He is survived by his wife, Sophie, a son, Arthur, and a daughter-in-law, Helen, all of San Diego; a son, Rodney, of College Station, Texas; and two grandchildren. Morris had many fond and colorful memories of his work with the Forest Service and had special regard for the Bitterroot Valley area of western Montana.

CAROL LUCILLE (ORCUTT) KING, 56, died November 25, at her home in Augusta, MT. Born in Conrad, MT, she graduated from Conrad High School and attended Montana State University/Bozeman. She had worked for the Forest Service for 19 years. Based at the Rocky Mountain Ranger District's Augusta (MT) Information Station, Lewis & Clark National Forest, she managed the district developed recreation and recreational residence programs. District employees will miss her good humor and strong work ethic. Mrs. King is survived by her husband, a daughter, and a son.

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Customer Comment Card Samplings

In 1995, the Chief of the Forest Service announced a new "Customer Service" effort: "Our commitment to customer service is achieved by each of us in our everyday contacts with customers, users and interest groups, industries, universities, government agencies, and others."

In a memorandum to all employees, the Chief sent a seven-point service pledge of standards and explained: "These standards are meant to provide common direction and expectations. They represent the kind of organization we want to present to people everywhere, in every aspect of our business."

The service pledge is displayed in Forest Service offices with a "Your Comments" card (containing the 7-point pledge), asking customers to "Help Us Help You" by responding to a series of four short questions and comments: "Please let us know how we did by responding to the these questions..." Here is a sampling of some of the more than 700 customer comment cards received in R-1 offices.

From the RO:

"We rented the Deer Ridge lookout tower. It was fabulous. We had such a wonderful time. Thank you for offering such a great experience! We hope to come back some day."

"I wish everyone I deal with was as courteous and helpful as the person in Missoula that assisted me."

From the Binerroot NF:

"I was very impressed with the friendly, helpful lady at the front desk."

"We thoroughly enjoyed our stay at the Spring Gulch Campground. We even stayed an extra day. The host and hostess were especially nice. We hated to leave."

From the Clearwater:

"The roadside interpretive displays and signs are wonderful"

"Staff was more than informed on the subjects we asked about."

From the Custer:

"We love the Forest Service brochures and cabins. The rangers are always very helpful and friendly."

"Our family received the 'Red Carpet' treatment. We were given accurate, expert advice and felt welcomed."

From the Flathead;

"A big thank you!"

"This office unfailingly gives excellent service, top to bottom."

From the Gallatin:

"We sought assistance after our vehicle had been burglarized while we were back-packing. Our losses were extensive. Your personnel went out of their way to be helpful in a very difficult situation."

From the Idaho Panhandle National Forests:

"If all the government agencies responded like the Forest Service, I wouldn't mind paying taxes."

"The ranger was so helpful. We stopped on a Sunday when they were closed and he helped us anyway. We got quite a bit more information than we thought we would."

From the Kootenai:

"This is by far the nicest campground we've been privileged to use. Your campground hosts are outstanding in work ethic and friendliness."

"Very, very, friendly service and super information."

From the Lewis & Clark:

"Keep up the good work. You are such a valuable resource in today's day and age."

"Great facilities. Our 4-H club loved staying there."

From the Lolo:

"Ninemile Remount Depot was a wonderful surprise. Another jewel in the country's crown. Loved it!"

"Your agency needs more Federal money to carry out its mission. I feel that you are doing an excellent job, especially in view of being understaffed and underfunded."

K.D. Flock, "Father of Smokey" Leaves Estate to Forestry School



"K.D." Flock, 1942.

The late Kester "K.D." Flock, known nationally as "father of Smokey Bear", left his estate to the University of Montana School of Forest.

Perry Brown, dean of the UM School of Forestry, said the unrestricted, \$77,783 bequest will be used as seed money to plan a new wing for the forestry building and to help finance and expand a computer laboratory at the school.

Flock died December 27, 1995 in Boise. He was 94 years old.

Born in Grangeville, Idaho, Flock had early childhood memories of being carried on his mother's lap while she was riding a horse fitted with wooden snowshoes over deep snow on the original Harpster-Elk City wagon road.

Flock transferred to the University of Montana from the University of Idaho. Despite good grades and progress through Idaho's forestry school, Flock was denied a diploma when university officials discovered he had not graduated from high school. He graduated from the UM School of Forestry in 1929. He earned a master's degree in public administration from American University, Washington, D.C., in 1940.

He was supervisor of the Santa Fe National Forest in Capitan, N.M., 1954 when a bear cub, called Smokey, was lifted from a charred tree after a spring forest fire. The orphan's paws had been blistered by the heat, but it was nursed back to health by Forest workers, their children and a local veterinarian.

Flock suggested that his cub become the living symbol of the cartoon Smokey Bear introduced as the Forest Service's fire-prevention icon six years earlier. Forest Service officials agreed. Flock accompanied the cub to Smokey's new home at the National Zoo in Washington, D.C.

"K.D." first worked for the Forest Service in 1919 in a range survey position in Missoula in the RO Division of Range Management. After service as a ranger from 1933 to 1935, he was promoted to assistant forest supervisor, Absaroka National Forest, Livingston, MT. He was named assistant supervisor of the Beaverhead National Forest, Dillon, MT. the following year and was assigned to Washington, D.C. in 1938.

He served in the Navy in World War II and retired from the Forest Service, as supervisor of the Boise National Forest, in 1958.

"Take Pride In The Clearwater" Marks 11th Celebration in 1997

Clearwater National Forest and Lewis & Clark trivia questions volleyed around the campfire like sparks after a hard day's work by volunteers participating in the eleventh "Take Pride in the Clearwater" project along the Lolo Trail in July.

This is how it began. Seven crews, loaded down with pulaskis, shovels, saws, post hole diggers, signs, garbage sacks, raincoats, boots, goggles, hats, gloves and lunches, piled into vehicles and headed to their assigned areas.

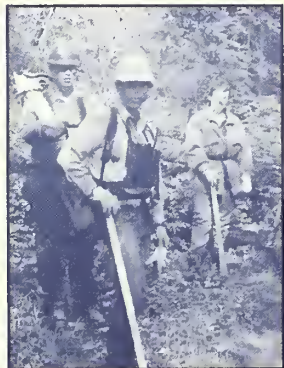
The Beaver Dam Saddle crew installed signs and cleaned the area. Discovering no one brought a pencil to mark the holes on the posts where the signs should go, someone dug into their lunch and used their M & Ms to mark the spot. That's ingenuity!

The Weitas Meadows-Green Saddle crew sawed out windfalls and cleaned out water bars.

The Sherman Saddle-Sherman Peak crew installed six log water bars and nine dirt water bars. The strength and energy of a 77-year-old worker impressed everyone!

Armed with just pulaskis and shovels, the Deep Saddle crew mucked into the muddiest, slimiest, wettest section of the trail and declared they would construct a ditch on one side and a stone wall on the other.

The Bowl Butte and Deep Saddle crews hauled large rocks, then gravel to one section of trail, putting down a foundation where water once flowed. As seasons pass, pine needles will fall and mosses and ferns will grow, giving the trail a natural appearance.



(left.) Rick Kusicko (foreground), Brandon Skinner, and Karen Mitchell emerge from Nee-Me-Poo Trail No. 40 after installing water bars and clearing brush.

Jessica Knight and Samantha Allen drain a wet area along a trail east of Deep Saddle.



BEAVER DAM SADDLE CREW installed new signs on the Lolo Motorway. Left to right: Betty Metcalf, Beverly Gilliam, Tyler Kolbo (crew boss), Shirley Clopton and Sherlee Hawkins.

Photos by Thelma Gober.

Commanded by crew boss/district ranger Doug "no rest for the wicked or non-wicked" Gober, the Sherman Saddle crew marched endlessly along the trail, clearing brush, cleaning water bars and sawing out branches and limbs. The first and only 10-minute break came when Doug's belt buckle broke. The crew halted and searched for the missing buckle part, saving the day.

At the end of the day, back at camp, other volunteers prepared the evening meal and made sure there was plenty of hot water for weary workers to shower. After a hot shower, clean, dry clothes and a good meal, everyone gathered around the campfire for a little reminiscing, a little story telling, a lot of friendship and satisfaction with work completed along the Lolo Trail.



Clearwater Fire Crew Joins Search For Hunter

By Kathy Thompson,
Information Assistant,
Clearwater National Forest, SO.
Orofino, Idaho.

A potentially sad story ended happily when a 76-year-old man with a heart condition, lost while hunting in central Idaho in September, was found after four days in rough terrain.

The Forest Service assisted in the search. The Clearwater County Search and Rescue Team called Forest Service Law Enforcement, John Preston, North Fork Ranger District, Orofino, Idaho. Preston, in turn, called Charlie Elliott, fire management officer for the Pierce and Lochsa Ranger Districts' zone.

Without hesitation, Elliott sent the zone fire crew to assist in the search in the Monroe Butte area northwest of 12 Mile Saddle and Road 500.

Crew leader Willie Allman led team members Tom Arnold, Jason Cuthbert, John Garland, Sonny Riley and Ron Weeks in the search. They set up a spike camp at Monroe Butte, gridded 640 acres and got to work.

"These were tough search conditions," said Elliott. The crew was in heavy brush and timber in rain. They weren't the ones who found the hunter, but their efforts contributed to the happy ending, as did the efforts of Mike Lubke, Powell Ranger District, who assisted in the coordination of air and ground search efforts.

Hats off to Lubke and the six members of the Pierce-Lochsa fire crew. They worked hard, they worked safely and they proved, once again, that the Forest Service is there when the community needs help.

Frequent Visitors To White Pine Creek Sale, Palouse R.D.

By Suzanne Lay, National Environmental Policy Act coordinator, Palouse Ranger District, Potlatch, ID, Clearwater NF.

The folks on the Palouse Ranger District are going to have to get some soil decompactors for the area around the White Pine Creek timber sale due to the frequent visitors to the area.

Trips to the proposed sale started in the early 1990s, typical public field trips with regular folks representing interest groups.

Interest in what some consider to be a pretty benign project seemed to take a different turn when the timber sale was appealed and the decision reversed by the Regional Office. Then the Salvage Bill media attention began, "logging without laws" and all that.

News came that the Chief of the Forest Service was coming to visit the sale. We thought Clearwater National Forest Supervisor Jim Caswell was pulling our leg. It was true, though. Then Chief Jack Ward Thomas came out along with the Washington Office directors of ecosystem management; wildlife, fish and rare plants; timber management and others.

After the Chief's visit, we had a whirlwind helicopter visit from Idaho Congressman Crapo and a representative for Idaho Senator Larry Craig. Soon after, we had a General Accounting Office review of salvage sale funds, and by that time, since we were so good with our dog-and-pony show, Jim decided the Palouse was the place to be!

So when Congressman Helen Chenoweth decided that she wanted to teach the subcommittee on forests and forest health about trees, where else? White Pine Creek! By this

time the White Pine Creek interdisciplinary team was so famous that folks like Helen Chenoweth were asking for our autographs.

Gravitating toward the action were Regional Office folks, including Deputy Regional Forester Kathy McAllister and others.



MIKE PHILBIN, hydrologist, Palouse RD, gives his address to Idaho Congressman Helen Chenoweth, one of the many visitors to the White Pine Creek timber sale area.

Photo by Blake Ballard.

Employee Spotlight



CAROL A. HENNESSEY
and daughter Ana

Name: Carol A. Hennessey, Lochsa R.D., Kooskia, ID, Clearwater NF.

Job: District Recreation & Wilderness Specialist.

Job Involves: Management of the District's Developed and Dispersed Recreation, Wilderness, Trails, and Special Uses programs. This includes developing partnership and grant opportunities, and working with many diverse volunteer groups.

Previous Life: I was born in Canton, Ohio, in 1957, just a few blocks from President McKinley's Memorial and what is now known as the National Football Hall of Fame. I left the city right after high school to pursue an Associate's Degree in Forestry (1977) at Hocking Technical College, Nelsonville, Ohio. After working two years as a forester for Ohio Power Co., I accepted a seasonal position with the Forest Service in 1979 and moved to Priest Lake, ID. I worked on the Priest Lake RD, Idaho Panhandle NFs, in timber management and silviculture from 1979 to 1987. In the winter I volunteered to work in recreation management. I returned to school in 1988 to earn a BS degree (1990) at the University of Idaho.

Family Life: I live in the beautiful Clearwater Valley with my husband, George, our daughter, Ana Louise, who just turned one, our cat, our horse, Easter, and our three mules, Dodge, Hank and Sadie. George is a population biologist with the Idaho Department of Fish & Game.

Favorite Place in the World: Hunt Lake, a small, high elevation mountain lake in the majestic Salmo-Priest basin area near Coolin, Idaho. It's the first hiking trip I took with my husband, George.

How I spend My Time Away From Work: Gardening, hiking, riding mules and traveling with George and Ana. I enjoy experiencing every new moment of discovery with my daughter.

Dream Vacation Would Be: I would love to visit the wildlife refuges of Africa with my family. And I would love spending a few weeks with Ana, George and our mules hiking, camping and fishing in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness.

Fantasy Job: I finally have it! I get to camp out and hike, ride mules, make new friends on the trail, and experience wilderness while I work. I am also able to work with many young people, volunteers and forest visitors promoting conservation education and strong land ethics. What more could anyone want—and I get paid for it!

My Greatest Adventure: Experiencing my first "solo" backpacking hitch in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. After only two months on the job, I spent four days and covered about 35 miles experiencing wilderness. This solo trip changed my impressions and understanding of "wild" country forever.

Achievements I'm Most Proud Of: Learning to play the flute and tenor saxophone; returning to college to finish my degree after 12 years; and my beautiful daughter, Ana. I am also very proud of the work I accomplish every day as a part of the Forest Service. Interacting with people is very rewarding for me. It's been 18 years since I started with the Forest Service and I still come to work believing what I do makes a difference.

Carl A. Weholt, 97, Thought Log Cabin Was On Selway N.F.

Carl A. Weholt, 97, Harpster, Idaho, wrote THE NORTHERN REGION NEWS about the log cabin in the "Into The Past" picture on the back page of the July issue.

He said he "determined that it had to be the two-story log residence at Pete King on the Selway National Forest, later consolidated into the Nez Perce National Forest."

"I first saw the structure in 1919. In my 40-mile walk from Kooskia to my assigned home at Canyon Creek meadows, where I would live for two summers alone, except for the infrequent visitors. Pete King was about at the halfway point. My book, SMOKECHASER, describes my experience. A copy is in the RO library."

"Thirty-two years ago I retired from the Nez Perce National Forest. My wife, 93, and I, 97, live at our self-built home in West Harpster, overlooking the beautiful South Fork River. We have been married 73 years and have five children, 10 grandchildren, and 22 great-grandchildren."

Weholt worked for the forest Service from 1919 to 1965. The picture in the July issue of THE NORTHERN REGION NEWS was of the Round Top Ranger Station, thought to be the first Forest Service building on the St. Joe National Forest in 1908.

Judith Ranger Station Identified by Retiree

Glenn R. Wright, R-1 retiree, correctly identified the 1914 "Into The Past" picture of the Judith Ranger Station in the August issue of THE NORTHERN REGION NEWS. It is on the Lewis & Clark National Forest,

"I think the picture in the August NORTHERN REGION NEWS is the Ranger Station near the mouth of Yogo Creek on the Judith River," Wright wrote.

Wright lives in Darby, MT.

Vicky MacLean Identifies NORTHERN REGION NEWS 1914 Picture of Judith RS

Vicky MacLean, range tech, Helena RD, Helena NF, correctly identified the "Into The Past" picture (1914) of the Judith Ranger Station, Lewis & Clark National Forest, that appeared on the back cover of the August issue of THE NORTHERN REGION NEWS.

"The Judith Ranger Station is located at the junction of the Judith River and Yogo Creek," MacLean writes. "It was built in 1908,

the year the Jefferson National Forest was formed from the consolidation of the Little Belt, Little Rockies, Snowy Mountains, and Highwood Mountains Forest Reserves.

"The picture shows the ranger station at the time it was part of the Jefferson National Forest in 1914. There is information about the Ranger Station in the recently published book 'Uncle Sam's Cabins'."

INTO THE PAST

Did you identify the house at the Gallatin National Forest Ranger Station in the 1920 picture that ran in the November issue of THE NORTHERN REGION NEWS?

It was a dwelling at the Gallatin's Big Creek Ranger Station.

The 1910 winter scene below shows a ranger station and bunkhouse on the Lolo National Forest. Can you name the ranger station in this Christmas card scene?



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